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NEWS RELEASE

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STATE'S FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION AFFIRMS CITY ATTORNEY'S LEGAL OPINION THAT PARKING BOARD MEMBERS MUST DISCLOSE FINANCIAL INTERESTS

San Diego, CA—In a 13 page advice letter, the State's Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) affirmed the San Diego City Attorney's legal opinion that all Community Parking District Advisory Board members must file annual Statements of Economic Interest.

"This decision is a victory for open and ethical government in San Diego," said City Attorney Michael Aguirre.

The issue arose recently when the La Jolla Parking District considered a plan to install parking meters in La Jolla Village. Numerous community members protested that some board members had conflicts of interest.

The decision confirms that under State law, members of parking advisory boards have decision-making authority and must inform the public of any financial interests related to their decisions.

Prior to the decision, the City Council had sought to protect board members from disclosure by restricting them to an "advisory" role. The FPPC ruled that because of the City's history of "rubber stamping" Board recommendations, disclosure would be mandatory even with the proposed change.

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